

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CHULA VISTA SAFETY COMMISSION**

**November 13, 2008
6:00 p.m.**

**Community Room
Chula Vista Police Department Headquarters**

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 6:06 p.m.

1. Roll Call:

Present: Chair Liken; Commissioners Caudillo, Cochrane, Moriarty, and Perrett

Absent: Commissioners Johnson and Navarro

Also present: Frank Rivera, Principal Civil Engineer; Muna Cuthbert, Senior Civil Engineer; Police Officer Shon Thurman; and Florence Picardal, Recording Secretary

MSC (Liken/Perrett) to excuse the absences of Commissioners Johnson and Navarro (both provided notification. (5-0-2, Johnson/Navarro absent)

2. Pledge of Allegiance/Silent Prayer

3. Opening Statement

Opening statement read by Chair Liken.

4. Approval of Minutes: October 9, 2008

MSC (Moriarty/Perrett) to accept the minutes of October 9, 2008 as submitted. (4-0-2-1, Johnson/Navarro absent; Caudillo abstain)

5. Oral Communications

- a. Mary Ann Saponara, 731 Nacion Avenue - Ms. Saponara spoke on behalf of herself and neighbors (380 J Street; 715, 725, 731, 737 Nacion Avenue; and 381 Millan). She stated there is a speeding problem on the J Street corridor (close to Halecrest School) and requested assistance. Chair Liken referred this item to staff for investigation with an informational report back to the Safety Commission.
- b. Jennie Jellison, Canterbury Court Senior Apartments (C Street) - Ms. Jellison referred her time to Barbara Nunnelee.
- c. Barbara Nunnelee, Canterbury Court Senior Apartments (C Street)- Ms. Nunnelee stated in the past 6 months, 2 pedestrians were hit and requested assistance with the following:
 1. Installing flashing red/yellow lights at the stop signs on Third Avenue/N. Glover
 2. Repaint N. Glover lines and 25 MPH pavement legendsShe stated she would also like the area made safer for seniors.
- d. Anne Kohl, Canterbury Court Senior Apartments (C Street) - Ms. Kohl requested assistance with the crosswalks adjacent to her residence. She stated pedestrians needed longer crossing times and the potholes in the crosswalk are in need of repair.

Chair Liken referred the requests for Canterbury Court to staff for investigation with an informational report back to the Safety Commission. Principal Engineer Rivera added that the potholes were recently repaired.

MEETING AGENDA

6. Resolution approving a temporary Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) station on Brandywine Avenue between East Palomar Street and Ingram Street with daytime on-street parking

The San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) is planning on instituting a new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) route along I-805 from Sorrento Valley to the Otay Ranch Town Center. The intent of the project is to reduce single occupancy vehicle trips on the regional roadway system.

Principal Civil Engineer Rivera introduced Jennifer Williamson, SANDAG Sr. Transportation Planner who gave a brief presentation on the Bus On Shoulders Services (BOSS) pilot program. Eric Adams (SANDAG) and Fu San (Project Consultant) were also introduced. There is a demand for the public to go from eastern Chula Vista to workplaces such as downtown San Diego or Sorrento Valley and SANDAG is considering a route that would start in eastern Chula Vista at the Otay Ranch Shopping Center and ending at Sorrento Valley.

Ms. Williamson spoke on the concept of BOSS project and the concept of potentially locating a park and ride facility on Brandywine. The Bus On Shoulders (BOS) concept would provide drivers with assistive technologies, but ensure they retain ultimate control. It would utilize a combination of sensors to support lane-keeping along with adaptive cruise control functions. This system is currently being used on SR-52, using the outside shoulder and has been in operation for 2 years without incident. This idea was pioneered in 1992 in Minneapolis, Minnesota which has 230 miles of roadway that can accommodate buses on shoulders.

Three options were looked at coming out of eastern Chula Vista: Telegraph Canyon, H Street, and Olympic Parkway. The Olympic Parkway route was ultimately chosen. The Brandywine transit stop was looked at because it is a 4-lane collector with the capacity to allow for restriping to 2-lane collector with on-street parking - a total of 69 spaces. This route would be a commuter express service similar to the one in Scripps Ranch/Rancho Bernardo and operate from 6 am to 9 am and 3 pm to 7 pm, Monday thru Friday only. Signs would be posted for "No overnight or weekend parking allowed". Maintenance of the stops would be done twice weekly. This stop would be a very temporary service. Funding is available to implement and operate this stop for 2-3 years. If it is successful, it could become a long-term service, but ultimately would be replaced when the South Bay BRT is fully constructed in 2012. It was reiterated that this project was still at the concept level.

Staff Recommendation: Safety Commission accept SANDAG's report and approve a temporary Bus Rapid Transit station on Brandywine Avenue between East Palomar Street and Ingram Street with daytime on-street parking.

Commission Discussion: Commissioner Perrett asked if this stop would resemble a regular bus stop. Ms. Williamson responded yes. Commissioner Cochrane asked about bus stops in the middle of the freeway, would those be overpasses? Ms. Williamson responded the bus stop would be elevated.

Public hearing opened.

The following persons spoke against staff's recommendation:

1. Elroy Kihano, 1440 Owen Dr., Chula Vista - He stated he would submit a petition against this proposal.
2. Kevin Smith, 628 Lee Circle, Chula Vista
3. Vilma Coquia, 581 Lee Circle, Chula Vista

Public hearing closed.

Commissioner Cochrane visited the neighborhood and stated it was a peaceful neighborhood and this transit station could increase crime. He understood the residents' request to find another location for this station and was in support of finding another location for the station.

Chair Liken thanked SANDAG for the report. He thought the innovation is exciting but was concerned about the 60 spaces impacting the neighborhood.

Commissioner Perrett stated he is favor of the project since it helps the I-805 commute. He would like to see better communications with the neighborhood. He felt this is a short-term project and there is a need for the project. He would like to see a community workshop.

Commissioner Moriarty stated she was in favor of the project, thought that security would increase, and it would only be a temporary project. She also expressed neighborhood involvement with SANDAG.

Commissioner Caudillo stated it was a good idea to relieve congestion on the freeway.

Chair Liken asked staff to address the City's involvement with this project and what the next steps would be after action is taken on this item.

Principal Civil Engineer Rivera explained the City's involvement is this project is as it relates to the changes on Brandywine (traffic-related items) - parking, striping, bike lanes, safety etc. BOSS is SANDAG's project which will start in Chula Vista then onto San Diego and vice versa.

Chair Liken asked if this project has been presented to Council? Principal Civil Engineer stated no. It is before the Commission now to address only the traffic safety issues. The recommendation will be forwarded to SANDAG.

MSC (Liken/Perrett) to concur with staff recommendation and look at the possibility of installing a 3-way stop at Brandywine/Ingram Street with appropriate crossings. (4-1-2, Cochrane voting no, Johnson/Navarro absent)

Chair Liken thanked everyone for attending and added the residents would have an opportunity to voice their concerns to SANDAG and Council.

7. Resolution - Conversion of 27th Street Between Main Street and Faivre Street from a Two-Way Roadway to a One-Way Southbound Roadway

With several development proposals in the area of 27th Street, a request has been made to City staff that proposes to convert 27th Street, between Main Street and Faivre Street, from a narrow two-way road into a southbound one-way road. Principal Civil Engineer gave a brief presentation.

Staff Recommendation: Accept staff's report and adopt a resolution concurring with staff's recommendation to make 27th Street a one-way (southbound) street, from Main Street to Faivre Street.

Public hearing opened.

The following person spoke in support of staff's recommendation:

1. Heriberto Gutierrez, 2681 Main St. (Eddie's Tires & Auto), Chula Vista

The following persons spoke in opposition of staff's recommendation:

1. Hector Tamayo, 1716 Broadway (Otay Farms/Paul & Sons), Chula Vista (referred time to Hector Tamayo, Jr.)
2. Hector Tamayo, Jr., 1716 Broadway (Otay Farms/Paul & Sons), Chula Vista

Public hearing closed.

Commission Discussion: Commissioner Cochrane had questions about loading issues and easements. Chair Liken asked Mr. Tamayo, Jr. questions about the Otay Farms property. Mr. Tamayo, Jr. responded that they have been in operation for 45 years. The business was established before annexation to the City. They have property rights to use it as a loading zone. It was granted by the owner to the County. The business has two-way traffic demands and are opposed to staff's recommendation, but would like to work with the City on other alternatives.

Miguel Tapia, Senior Planner for the Planning and Building Department gave a brief overview of three projects that are ongoing. There are two projects that are on the west side of 27th Street. Site plans have changed several times to meet the Municipal Code. The projects are at a standstill. The conversion of this street to one-way would solve problems encountered in completing these projects as well as account for future improvements. Private improvements along the roadway frontage would also be facilitated.

Commissioner Perrett had questions on the widening and opposed staff's recommendation. Commissioner Cochrane would like the legal issues resolved and needed more clarification.

Chair Liken reiterated the Safety Commission's roles and responsibilities (safety-related issues) and would like the item to move forward. Commissioner Moriarty also expressed she would like the item to move forward.

Commissioner Caudillo stated this action was premature and opposed staff's recommendation.

MSC (Perrett/Cochrane) to postpone this item to the January meeting.(5-0-2, Johnson/Navarro absent)

8. Traffic Engineering CIP Project Update

Principal Civil Engineer Rivera stated there was a project not on the update list -- a Caltrans project, ramp widening to northbound I-805 at Telegraph Canyon Road, East H Street and Bonita Road. This will be completed in the spring.

9. Traffic Accident Summary

Officer Thurman reported in addition to the summaries submitted, there were 3 fatalities since September. All three were the fault of the pedestrians. The Pedestrian Safety Campaign kicked off before Halloween. The campaign will run through the end of January.

10. Action Summary Update

Principal Civil Engineer Rivera stated the recommended improvements along Brisbane Street have been installed.

OTHER BUSINESS

11. Commissioner Comments

Commissioner Perrett asked a question re: Heritage Road. Principal Civil Engineer Rivera responded. *(Comment was not audible on recording.)*

Commissioner Moriarty asked a question re: the Eastlake I pool closure. *(Comments not audible on recording.)*

Commissioner Cochrane asked if the road behind the Paseo Del Rey shopping center is the City's responsibility. Principal Civil Engineer Rivera responded the City's responsibility is only until Lazo Court. East of that is private property. *(Comments not audible on recording.)*

Chair Liken asked if there was any objection to cancelling the December meeting. There was no objection. The December meeting will be cancelled.

Chair Liken asked the Recording Secretary to prepare for his signature a "violation letter" to Commissioner Navarro. He stated Commissioner Navarro was in violation of Council Policy (3 meeting absences).

12. Staff Comments

Sr. Civil Engineer Cuthbert asked if electronic versions of the packet could be sent via e-mail. This would save staff time/gas in delivering packets. The Commission agreed with the suggestion.

Chair Liken stated that Council may be conducting their January Council budget workshop meeting in the Police Dept. Community Room and the Safety Commission meeting may be moved to the Public Services Building-Engineering Conference Room. He asked staff to keep the Commission informed of the possible meeting relocation.

ADJOURNMENT AT 8:38 P.M. to the next scheduled meeting of January 8, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,



Florence Picardal, Recording Secretary

AUDIO DIFFICULTIES WERE EXPERIENCED IN THE MEETING RECORDING